

Charakterisierung des Strömungsfelds eines Ranque-Hilsch-Wirbelrohrs mittels gefilterter Rayleigh-Streuung

Ulrich Doll, Eike Burow, Manfred Beversdorff, Guido Stockhausen, Christian Willert

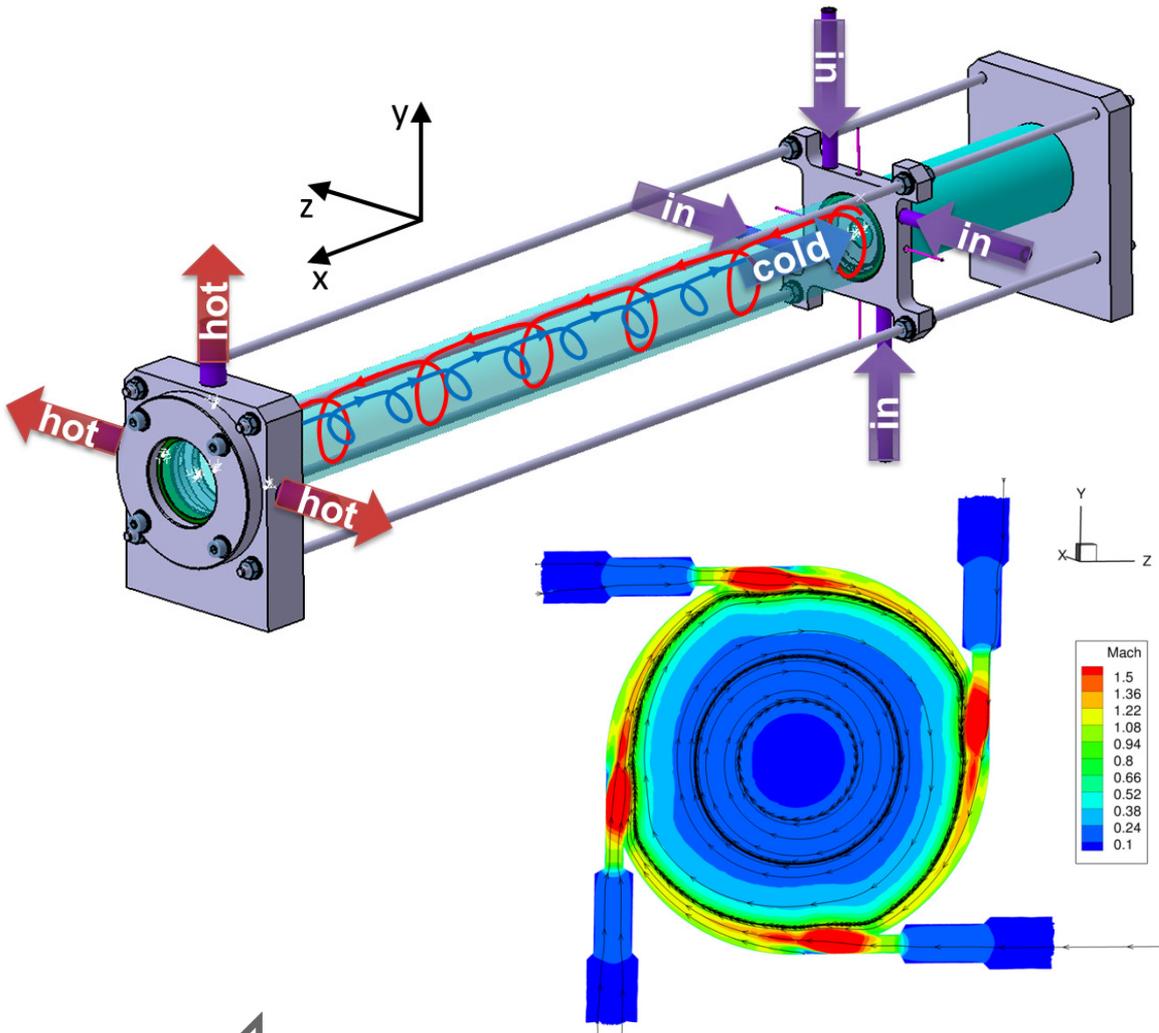
Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V. (DLR)
Institut für Antriebstechnik
Triebwerksmesstechnik



Knowledge for Tomorrow



Ranque-Hilsch vortex tube (RHVT)



- Purely fluid dynamical → Simple geometry, no moving parts
- Temperature separation still controversially discussed
- Complex 3D flow
 - Adiabatic expansion
 - Radial compression
 - High vorticity
 - Viscosity and turbulence
 - Static temperature gradient
 - Convective heat transfer
 - Nonlinear acoustics



Outline

- Motivation
- FSM-FRS technique
- Experimental setup
- Measurement results
- Discussion and summary

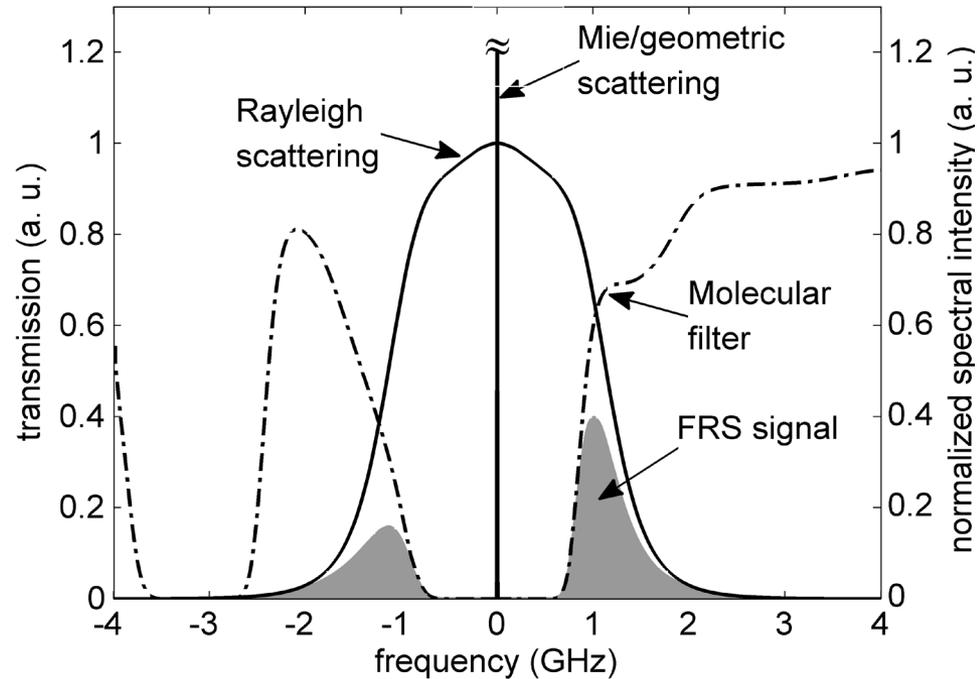
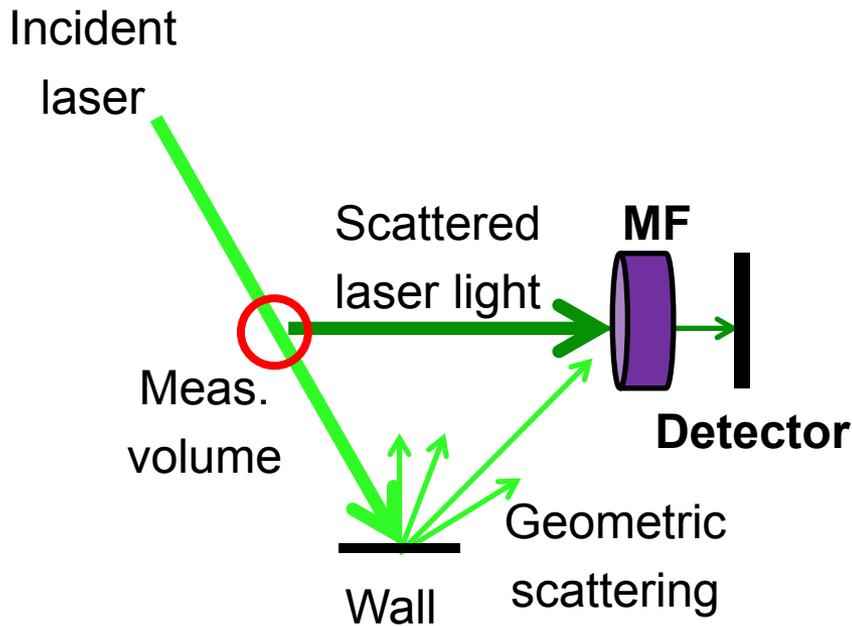


Motivation

- Most studies rely on conventional probe based technology (Pitot probes, thermocouples, hot wires, etc.)
 - High temporal resolution, but: only point-wise, blocking impact (3 – 26 % of cross section) on the flow field
- Laser based optical measurement techniques → Noninvasive
 - Scattering from tracer particles added to the flow
 - Molecular scattering
- High centrifugal acceleration → discrepancy between fluid and particle motion
- Planar FRS → based on elastic molecular scattering
- Provides time averaged information on pressure, temperature and velocity (Doppler shift)



FSM-FRS technique | Working principle

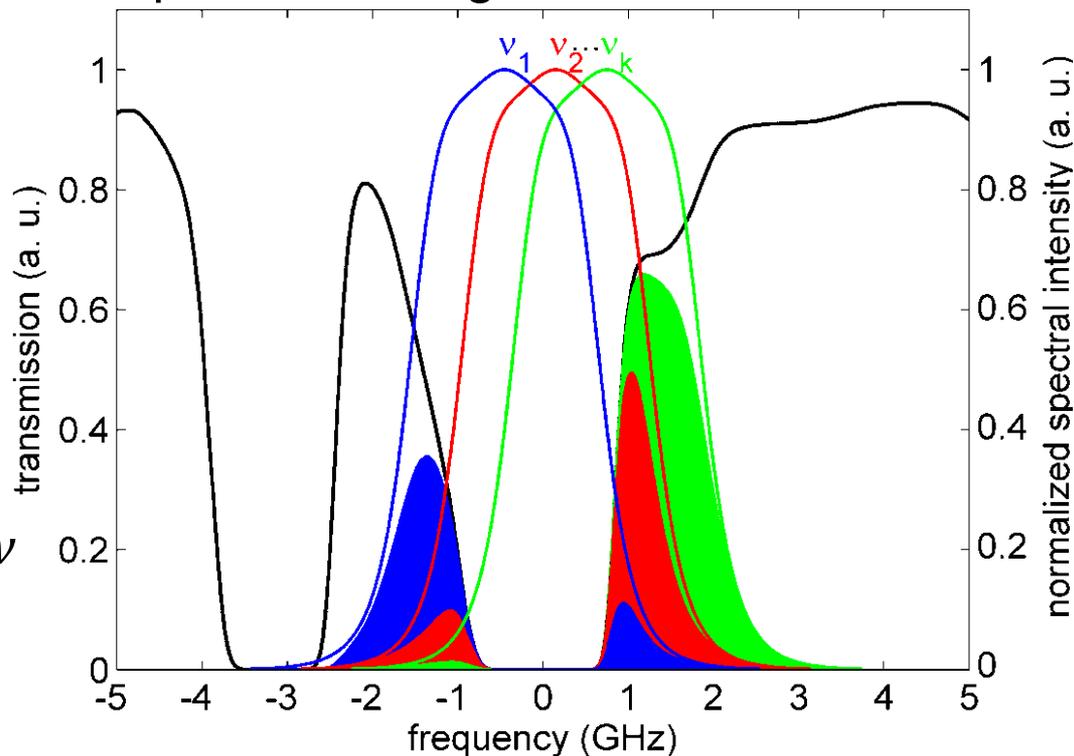


- Molecular filter (MF) suppresses scattering from surfaces (geometric) and large particles (Mie)
- Portions of the spectrally broadened Rayleigh scattering reach the detector
- $\rho, p, T, \Delta\nu$ in FRS signal → **lost due to on-chip integration**

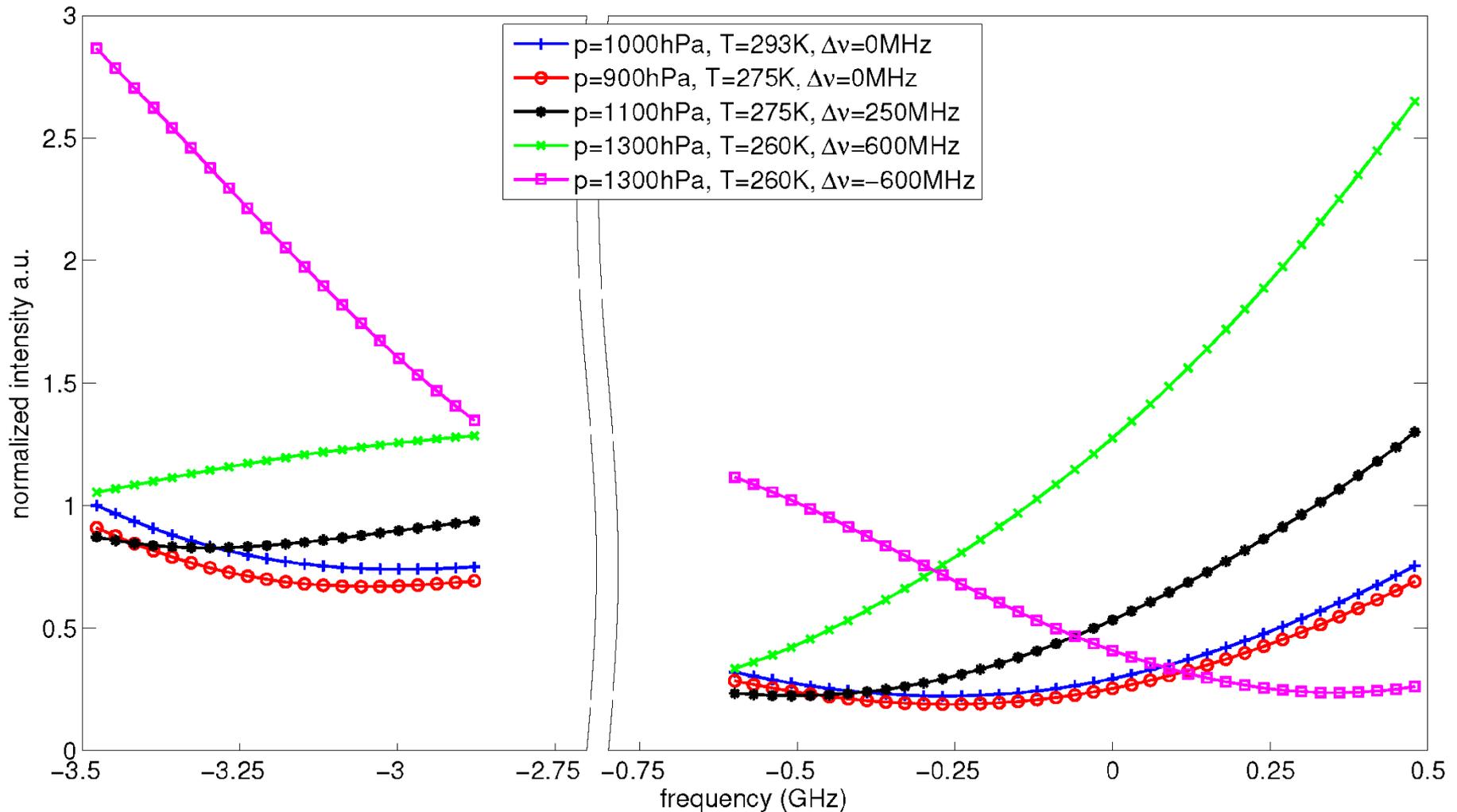


FSM-FRS technique | Frequency scanning method

- Spectral distribution is preserved for a stationary or temporally averaged process
- Laser is tuned to discrete frequencies along transmission curve, FRS signal is altered
- Intensity spectra for each camera pixel
- Inverse problem: spectral lineshape is recovered by least-squares fitting $\rho, p, T, \Delta\nu$

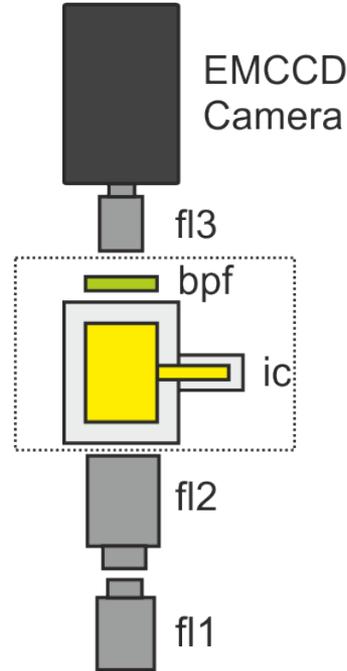
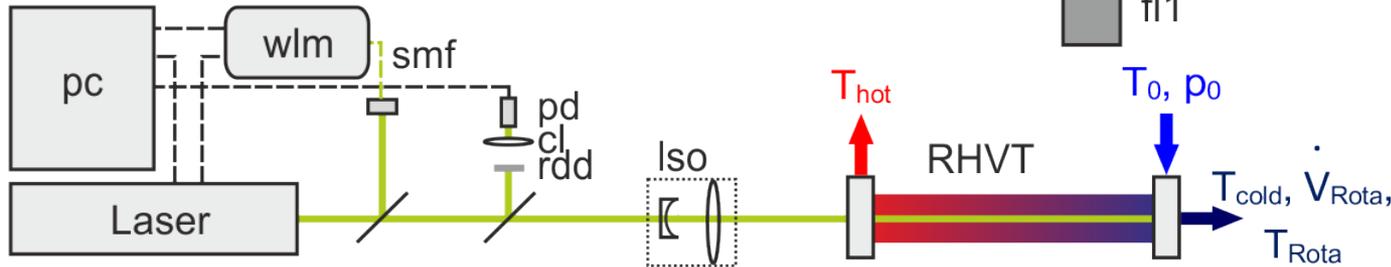


FSM-FRS technique | Frequency scanning method



Experimental setup

wlm:	wavelengthmeter	RHVT:	Ranque-Hilsch vortex tube
smf:	single-mode fibre	fl1:	focusing lens 1, 75 mm, $f = 1.8$
rdd:	rotating diffusion disc	fl2:	focusing lens 2, 100 mm, $f = 2$
cl:	collecting lens	ic:	iodine cell
pd:	photodiode	bpf:	bandpass filter, FWHM = 1 nm
Iso:	light sheet optics	fl3:	focusing lens 3, 75 mm, $f = 1.8$



Light sheet:

- Cw (5W), scanning
- Height 32 mm
- Waist 0.6 – 2 mm

Field of view

- $53.5 \times 53.5 \text{ mm}^2$
- 0.21 mm/pix
- Traversed 14 times

Frequency-scan:

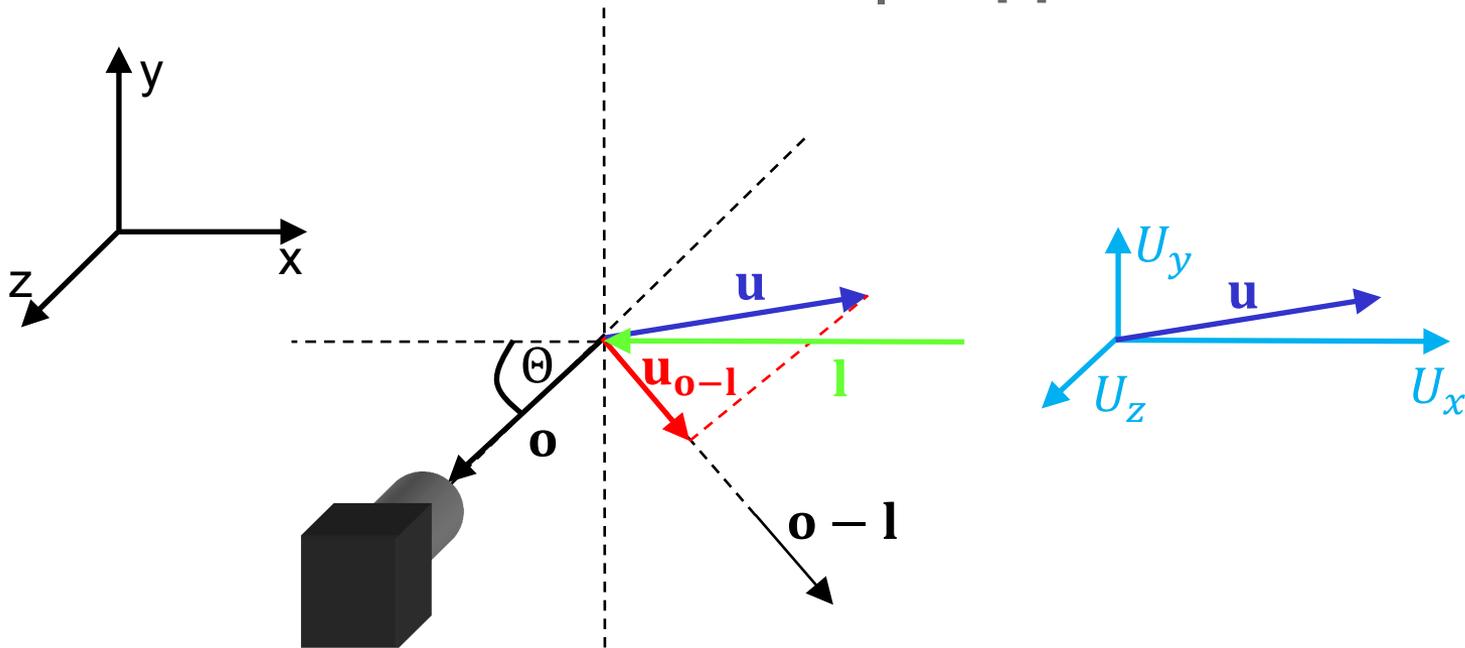
- 32 frequencies
- Increment 60 MHz
- Exp. Time 6 s

Operating condition:

- $p_0 = 7115 \text{ hPa}$
- $T_0 = 294 \text{ K}$
- $\epsilon = \frac{\dot{m}_c}{\dot{m}} = 0.3$



Measurement results | Doppler shift

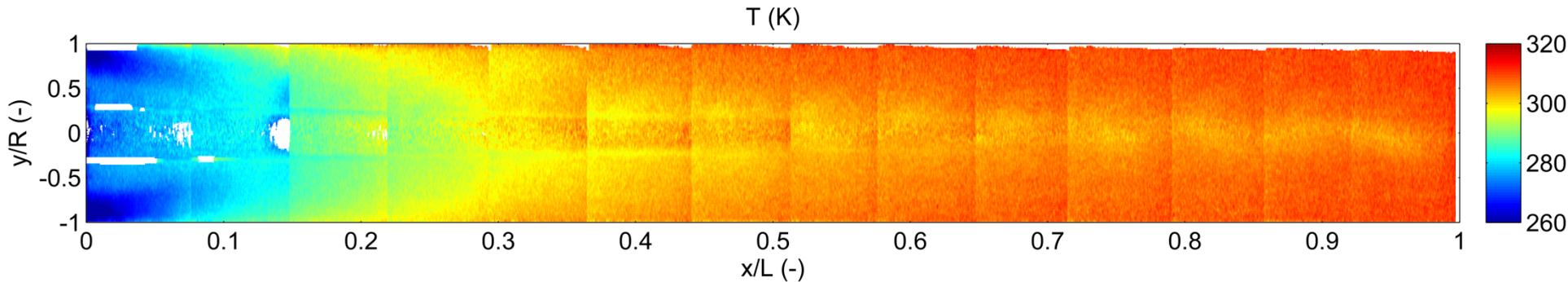


- No sensitivity to U_y
- Flow field rotationally symmetric with respect to the tube axis
- $\mathbf{l} = (-1, 0, 0)$, $\mathbf{o} = (o_x, o_y, o_z)$

$$U_x = \frac{c(\Delta v(y) + \Delta v(-y))}{2v_0(o_x - 1)}, \quad U_z = \frac{c(\Delta v(y) - \Delta v(-y))}{2v_0 o_z}$$



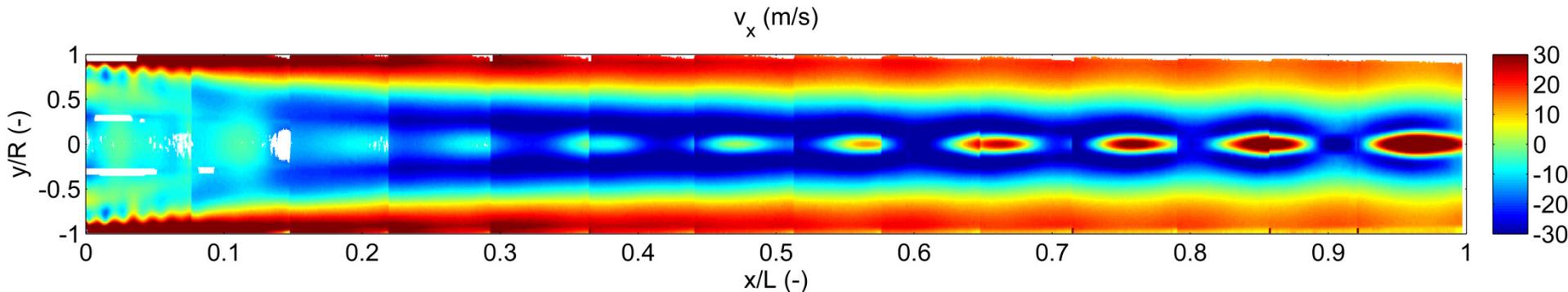
Measurement results | Temperature



- Lowest temperatures (~ 240 K) near the injection
- Conical structure of the temperature field in the first third
- Centerline Temperature rises from 270 K near $x/L = 0$ to 294 K (inlet temperature) at $x/L = 0.3$
- Highest temperatures (~ 310 K) near the hot exit
- Declining temperature difference between core region and periphery, but: colder core persists as far as hot exit



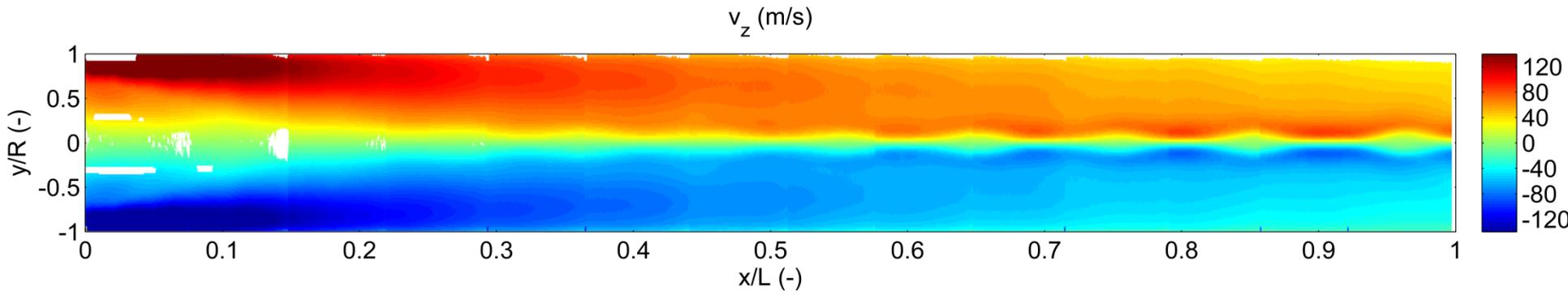
Measurement results | Axial velocity



- Two main regions: peripheral and core area
- Sign change at the borderline between core and periphery → air streams back towards cold exit
- Core region more developed near the injection → similar cross sectional area in the back
- Regular flow pattern near the tube axis
 - Distinct zones, velocity differs from surrounding fluid
 - “Washed out” until $x/L = 0.3$ → ellipsoidal shape with growing axial distance
 - Velocities inside and outside negative in the front half
 - Kernels of positive axial velocity in the rear



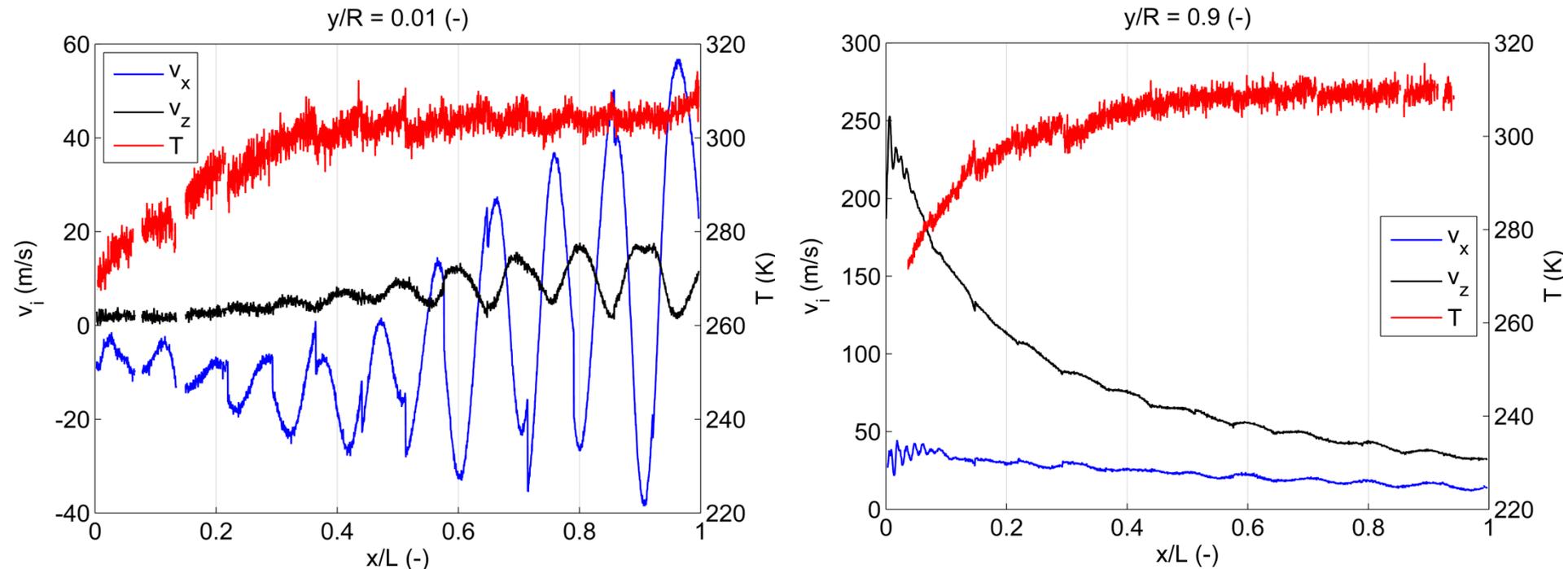
Measurement results | Circumferential velocity



- Dominated by the swirl of the main vortex
- Highest values near the tangential air injection, decreasing gradually with axial distance
- Regular flow pattern also recognizable → expands the low velocity region around the tube axis



Measurement results | Axial profiles



- $y/R = 0.01$: Axial and circumferential velocities bear reminiscence to a driven oscillation, growing amplitudes towards hot exit
- Bulk temperature increase in the first third
- Discontinuities: Circumferential velocity seems unaffected, temperature and axial velocity are biased \rightarrow strong relationship between heat release and axial velocity



Discussion and summary

- The flow field of a Ranque-Hilsch vortex tube was characterized with FSM-FRS for $\epsilon = 0.3$
- Temperature, axial and circumferential velocity fields were obtained
- Regular flow pattern was discovered
→ Indicates relationship between acoustic phenomena and the time-averaged flow field



Thank you!

Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V. (DLR)
German Aerospace Center
Institute of Propulsion Technology | Measurement Technology |
Linder Höhe | 51147 Cologne | Germany

Dipl. Ing. **Ulrich Doll**
Telephone +49 2203 601 2843 | Telefax +49 2203 64395 |
E-Mail ulrich.doll@dlr.de

Explaining the temperature separation | A selection of hypotheses

- Underlying mechanisms are still controversially discussed in the literature
- Three selected hypotheses:
 1. Multi-circulation¹
 2. Heat-pump analogy^{2,3}
 3. Acoustic streaming⁴

¹Xue, Y.; Arjomandi, M. & Kelso, R. (2013), 'The working principle of a vortex tube', *International Journal of Refrigeration* **36(6)**, 1730 - 1740.

²Ahlborn, B. K. & Gordon, J. M. (2000), 'The vortex tube as a classic thermodynamic refrigeration cycle', *Journal of Applied Physics* **88(6)**, 3645-3653.

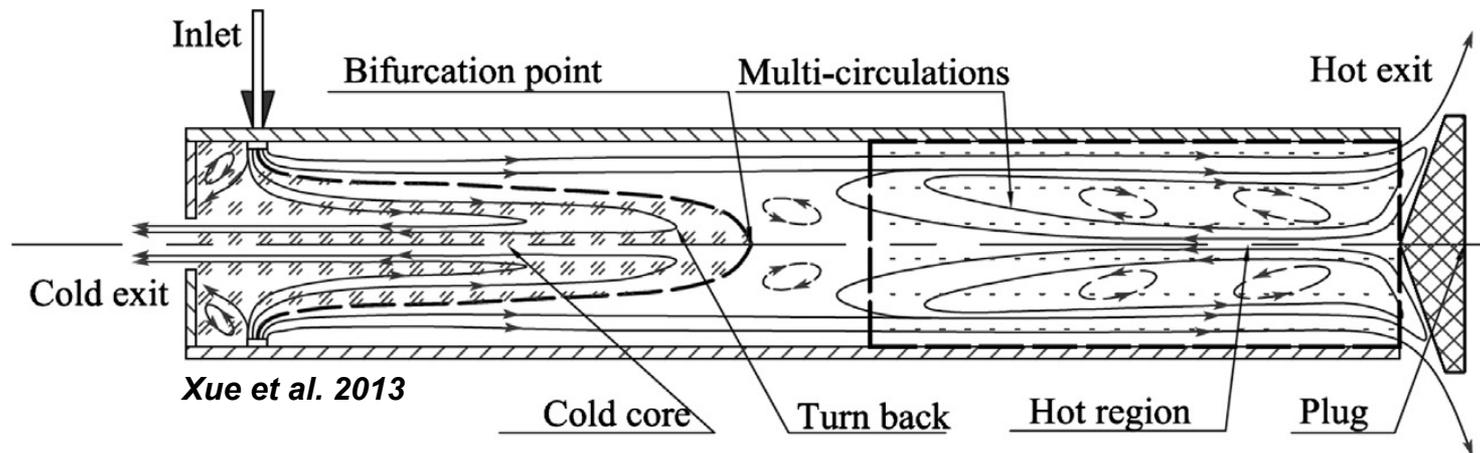
³Liew, R.; Zeegers, J.; Kuerten, J. & Michalek, W. R. (2012), '3D Velocimetry and droplet sizing in the Ranque-Hilsch vortex tube', *Experiments in Fluids* **54(1)**.

⁴Kurosaka, M. (1982), 'Acoustic streaming in swirling flow and the Ranque-Hilsch (vortex-tube) effect', *Journal of Fluid Mechanics* **124**, 139--172.



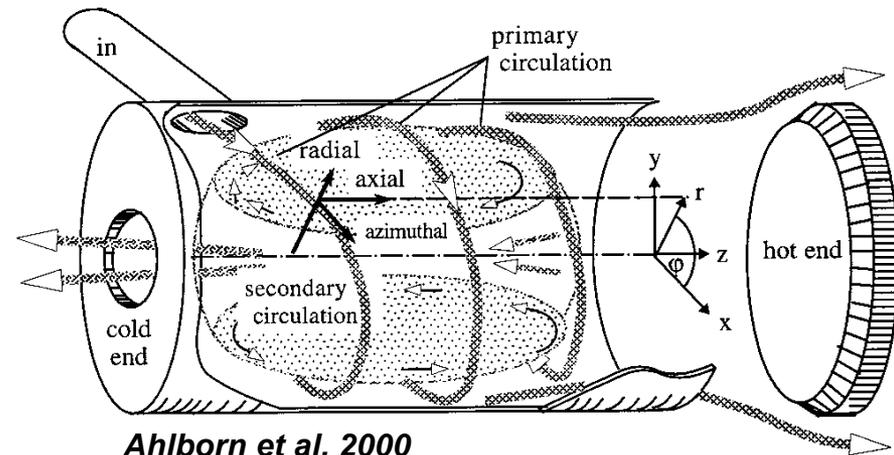
Explaining the temperature separation | Multi-circulation (Xue et al. 2013)

- Flow expands from a high to a low pressure region → temperature drop in the tube's center
- Most of the peripheral flow exits the tube through hot exit
- Parts of the flow are forced back and enter a multi-circulation flow pattern → temperature rise at the hot end through interaction of central and peripheral (by partial stagnation and mixture)
- Cold core and the hot region are divided by a separating region → prevents mixing between front and rear



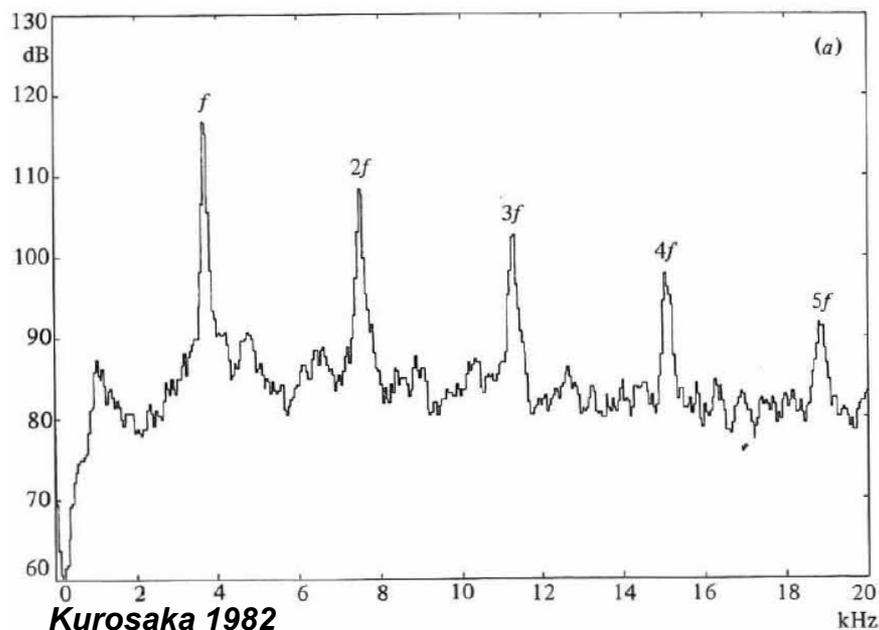
Explaining the temperature separation | Heat-pump analogy (Ahlborn et al. 2000, Liew et al. 2012)

- Compressed air expands from nozzle → lowest temperature in the system
- Radial pressure gradient exists due to centrifugal forces
 - If gas is moved from the center towards the wall, it is compressed and heats up
 - If gas is moved from the wall towards the center, it is expanded and cools down
- Gas transport can only be maintained if **radial velocity fluctuations** are present
 - Ahlborn: secondary circulation
 - Liew: system of turbulent eddies



Explaining the temperature separation | Acoustic streaming (Kurosaka 1982)

- Some form of unsteadiness is needed to explain the temperature separation
- Acoustic streaming: Distortion of the time-averaged flow field due to acoustic perturbations → Non-linear acoustics
- Experiment: A vortex tube was placed inside an acoustic cavity, sound pressure and temperature measurements at the centerline → fundamental frequency and higher harmonics
- Changing inlet pressure to modify f → when resonance of cavity is reached, SPL drops by 25 dB, temperature rises by 35 K

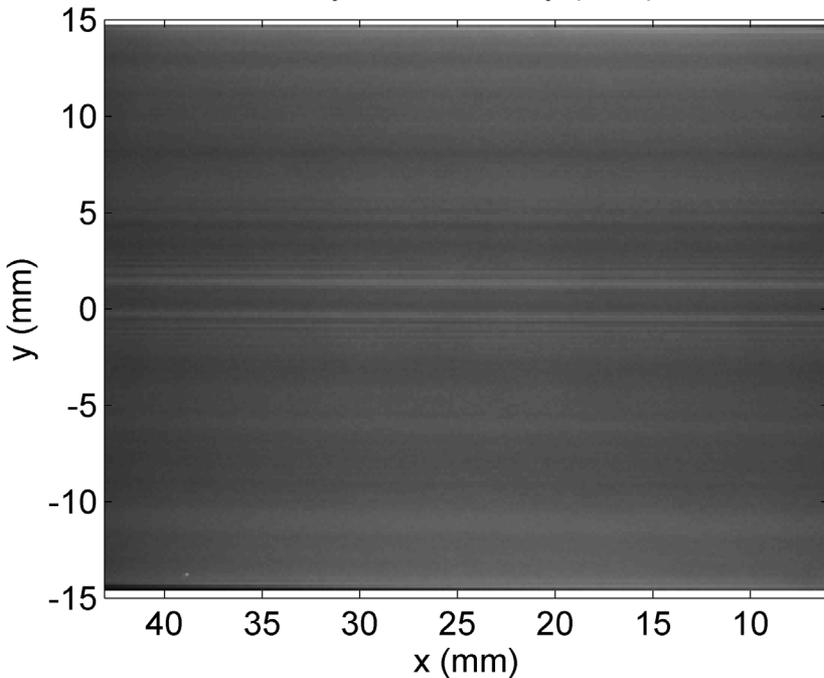


FSM-FRS technique and data evaluation methodology

$$S_{ijk}(X, Y, \nu_{0,k}) = R_{ij} I_0 \left(n_{ij} \sigma \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} r_{ij}(X, Y) \tau(\nu + \Delta\nu_{ij}) d\nu \right]_k + C_{t,ij} \right)$$

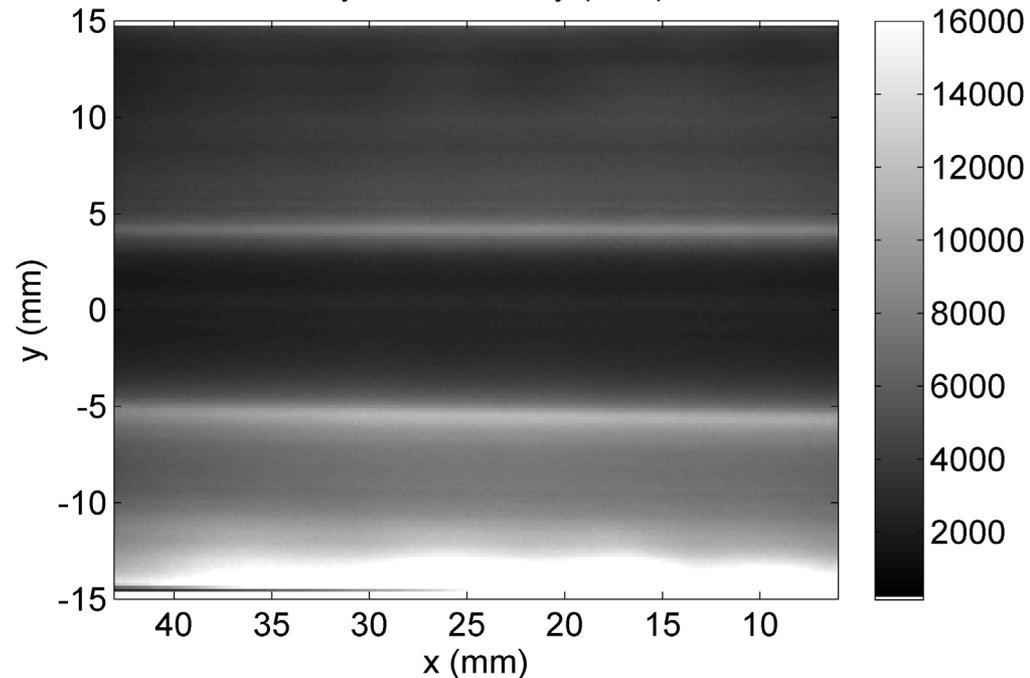
Reference conditions

Grayscale intensity (a. u.)



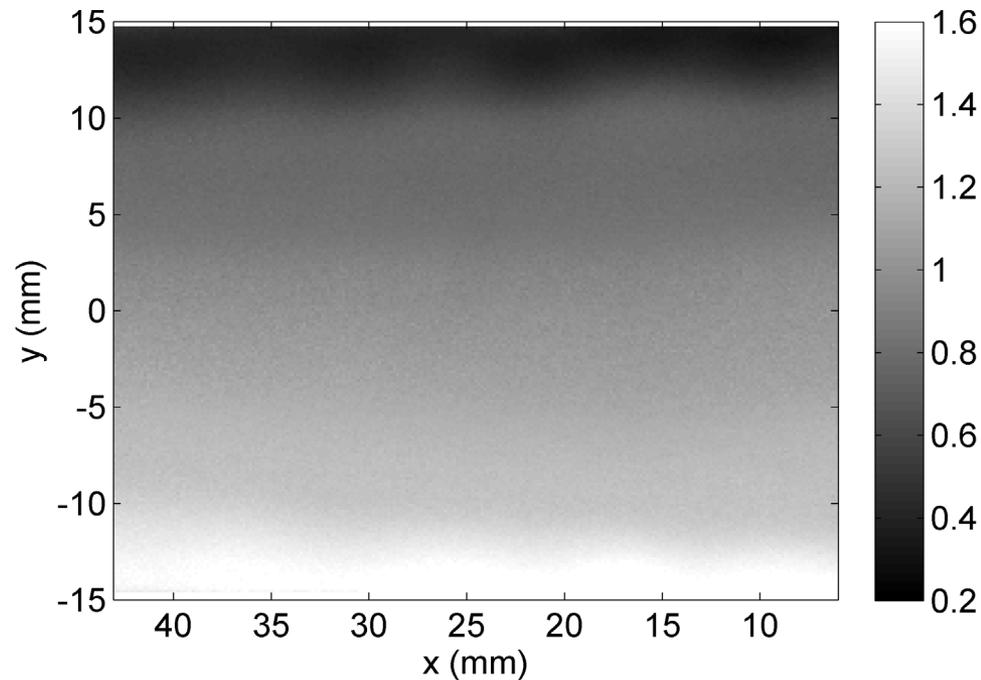
Operating conditions

Grayscale intensity (a. u.)



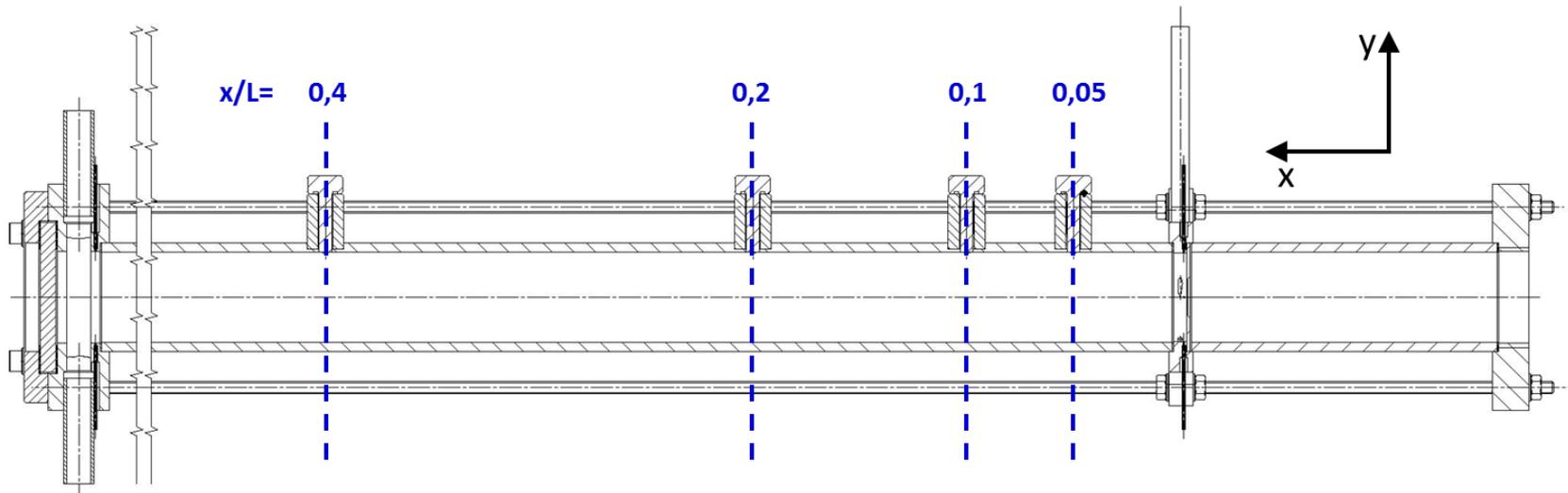
FSM-FRS technique and data evaluation methodology | Normalization

$$Q_{ijk}(X, Y, \nu_{0,k}) = \frac{S_{ijk}}{\langle S_{ij} \rangle} = \frac{n_{ij} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} r_{ij}(X, Y) \tau(\nu + \Delta\nu_{ij}) d\nu \right]_k + C_{t,ij}}{n_{ij} \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} r_{ij}(X, Y) \tau(\nu + \Delta\nu_{ij}) d\nu \right]_k + C_{t,ij}}$$

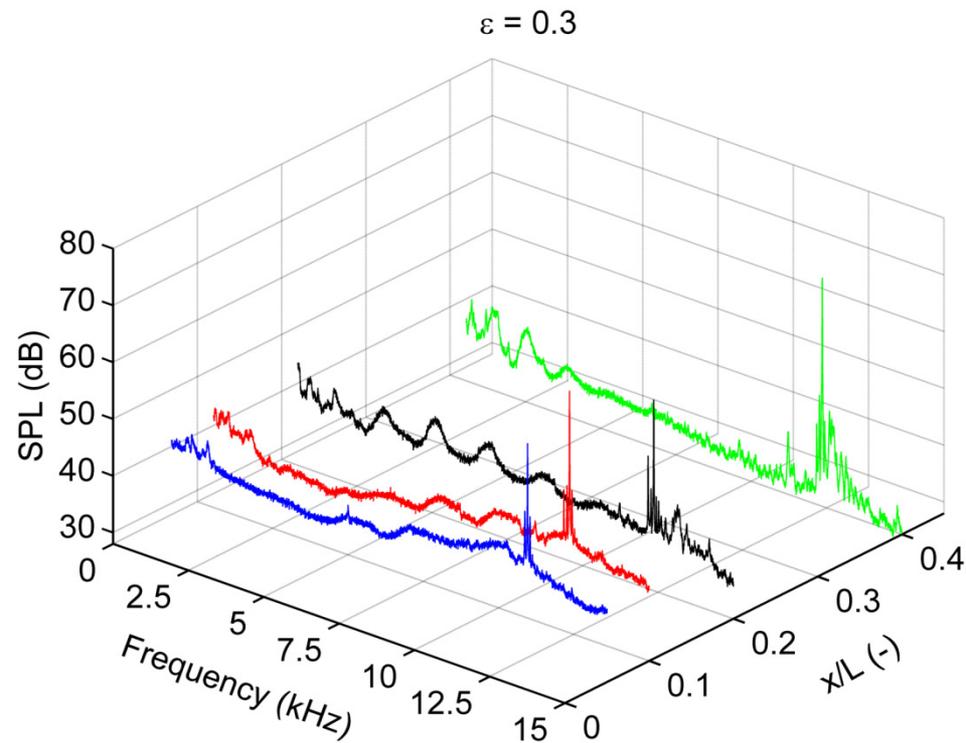
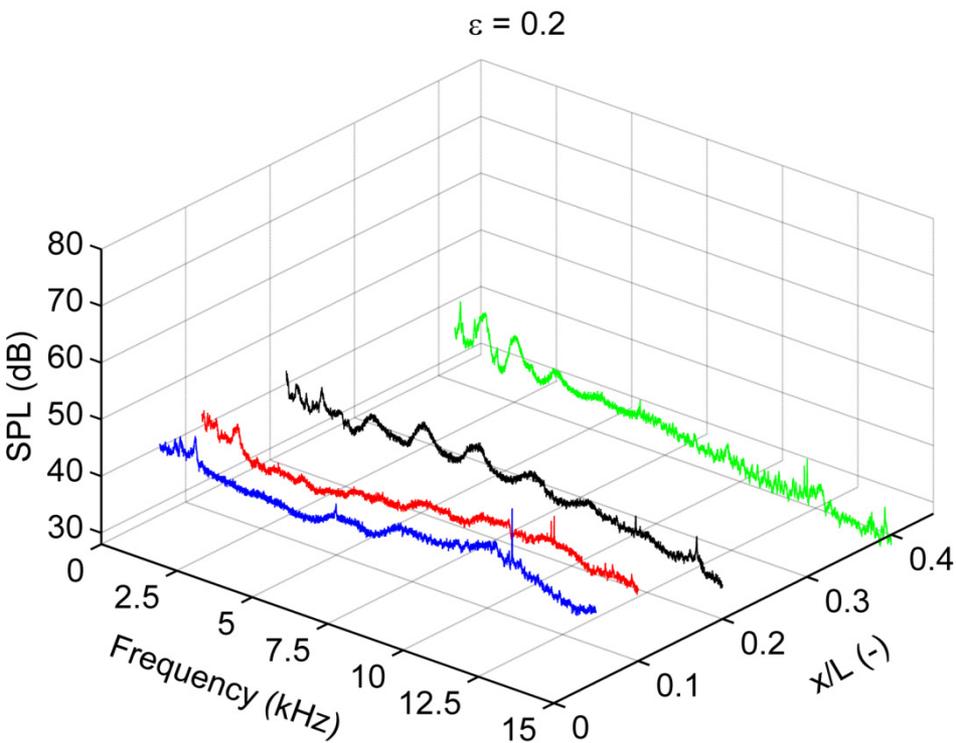


Global characterization | Setup

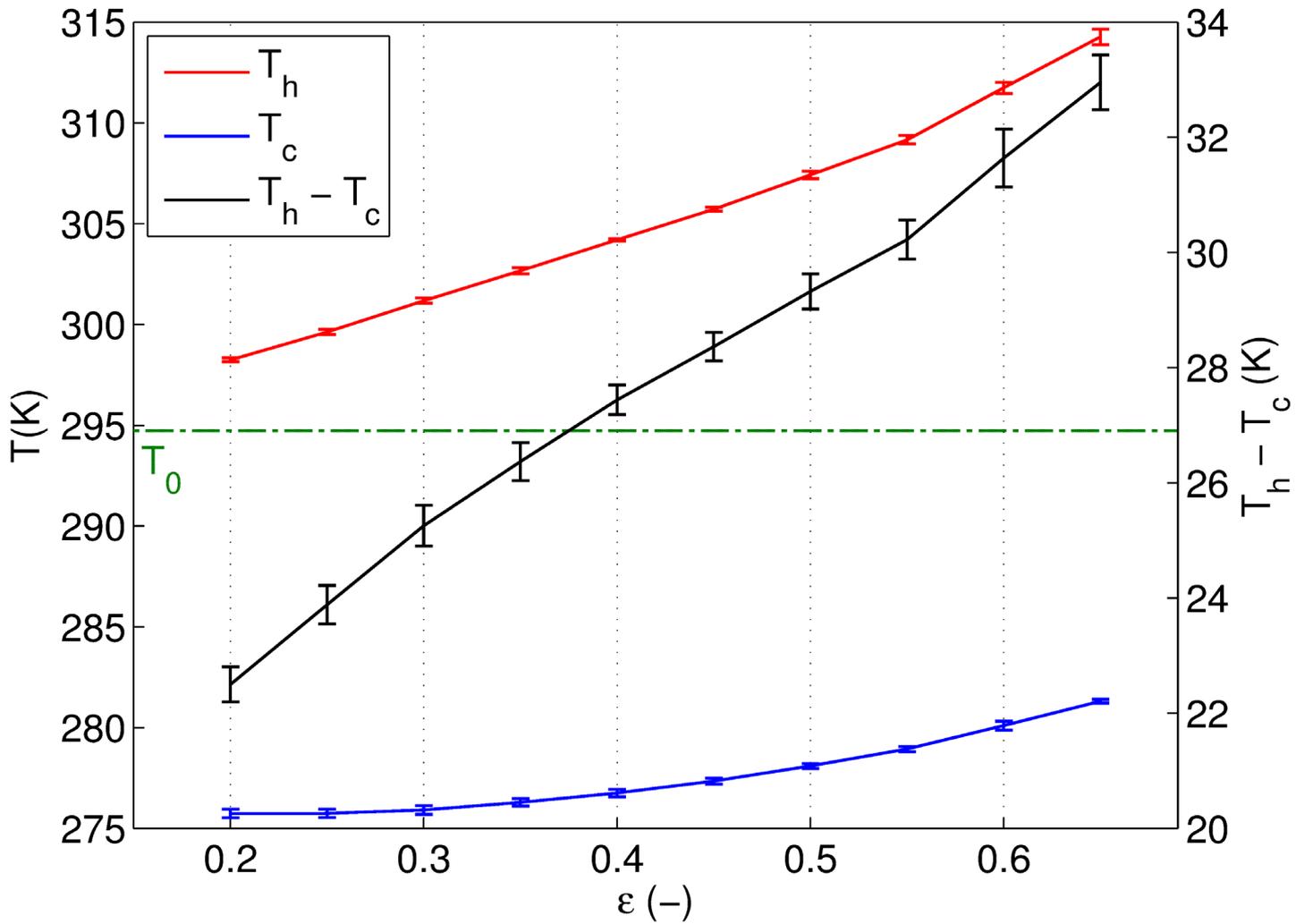
- Attributes influencing temperature separation:
 - Geometric properties: tube diameter (30 mm), tube length (700 mm), nozzle geometry, orifice diameter at cold exit
 - Inlet pressure (7 bar), inlet temperature (294 K)
 - Cold fraction $\epsilon = \frac{\dot{m}_c}{\dot{m}}$ → variation from 0.2 – 0.65
- Instrumentation → p_0, T_0, T_h, T_c (2 Hz, 90 s)
- Wall pressure with Kulite piezoelectric sensor (50 kHz, 60 s)



Global characterization | Frequency analysis

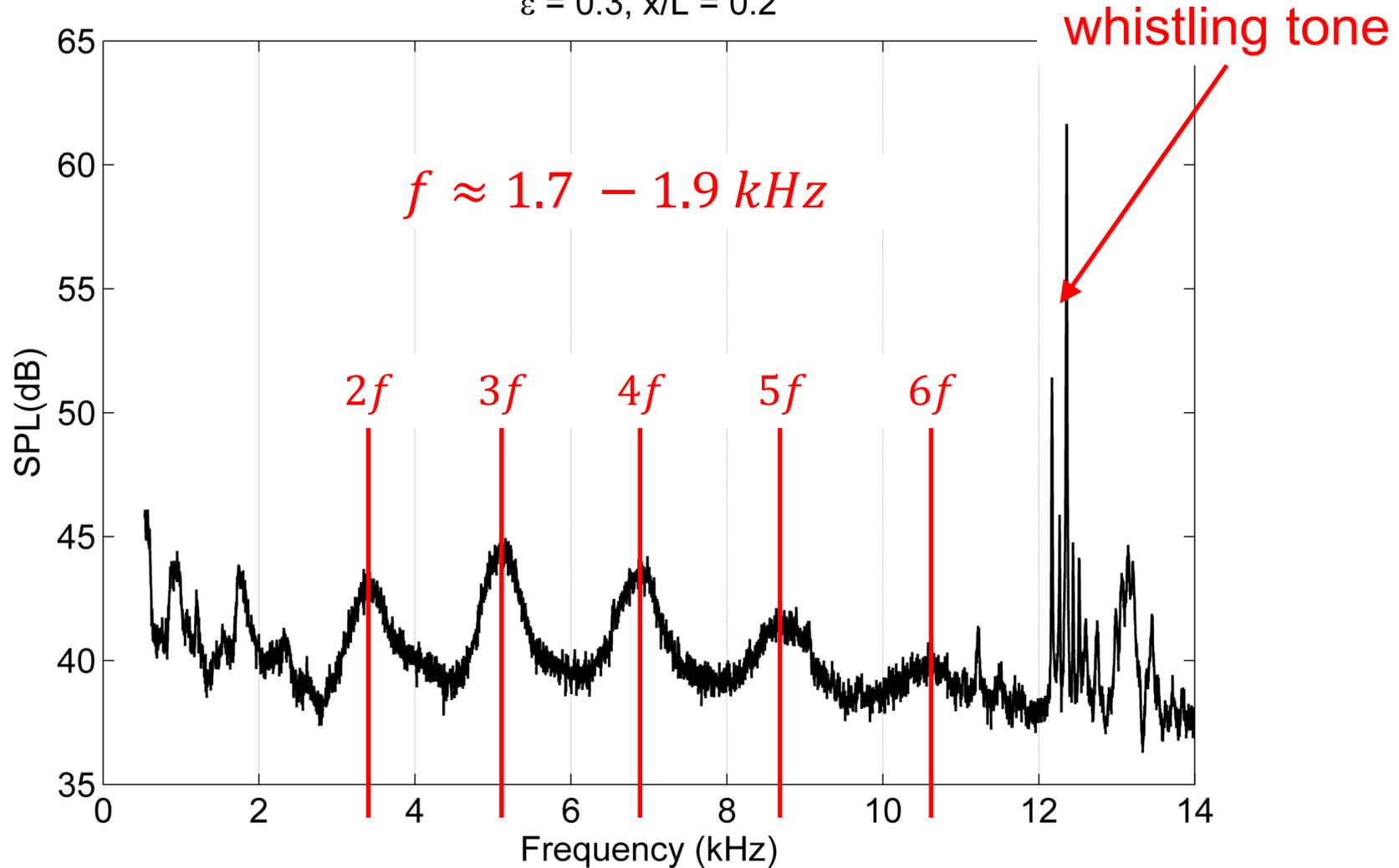


Global characterization | Temperature

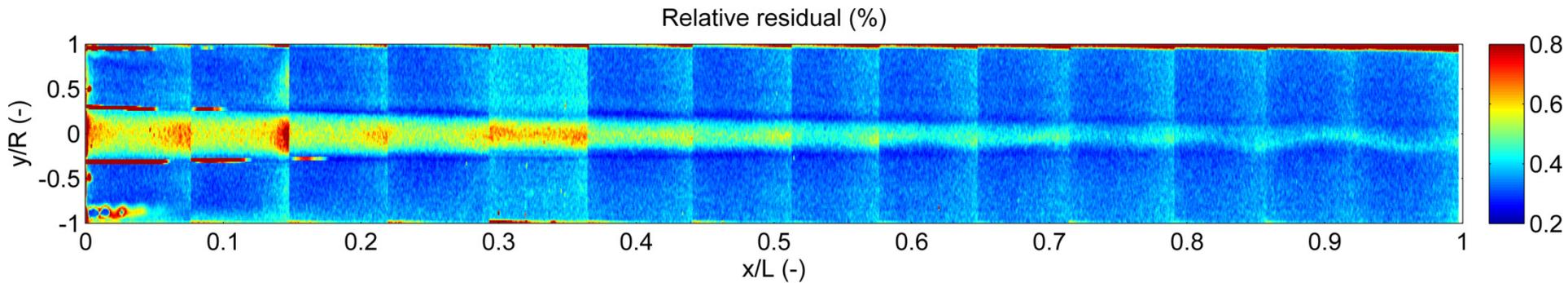


Global characterization | Frequency analysis

$\varepsilon = 0.3, x/L = 0.2$



FSM-FRS measurements | Relative residual



- Levenberg-Marquardt least-squares Method

$$\chi^2 = \sum_k (S_{k,Mod}(v_{o,k}) - S_{k,Meas}(v_{o,k}))^2$$

- Relative residual

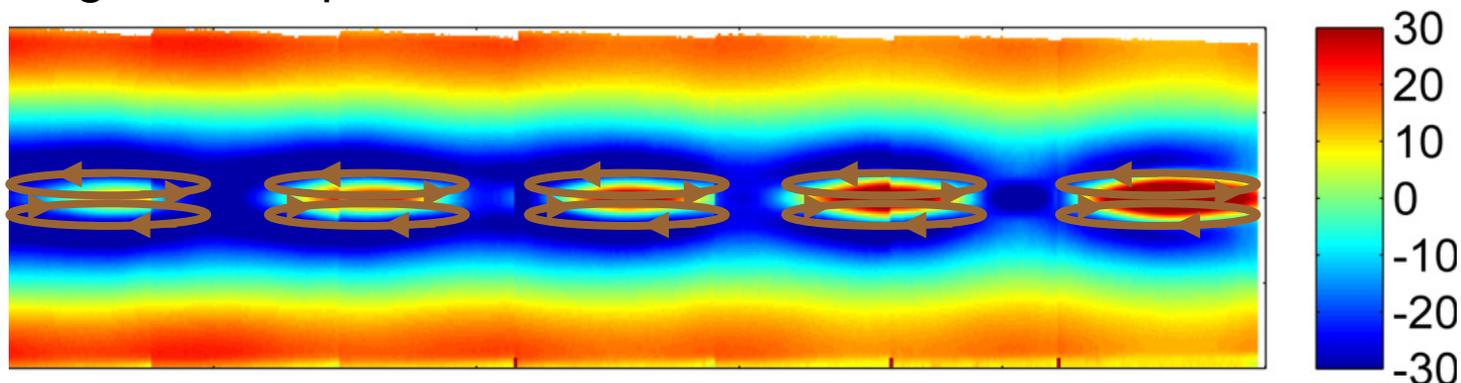
$$\sqrt{\frac{\chi^2}{\sum_k S_{k,Meas}^2}} * 100$$

→ Measure for goodness of data fit



Discussion and summary

- Flow expands from a high to a low pressure region, formation of a cold core in the front (Xue et al., Ahlborn et al., Liew et al.)
- Cold core and the hot region are divided by a separating region (Xue et al.)
- Regular flow pattern:



- Multi-circulation (Xue et al.) or heat pump (Ahlborn et al., Liew et al.)
- Acoustic streaming: Distortion of the time-averaged flow field due to acoustic perturbations

